

**P-20 Council Meeting**  
**June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Loyola University**

Minutes

Chicago: Tasha Cruzat, Randy Dunn, Dan Harris, Janet Holt, Karen Hunter Anderson, Laurel Prussing, Beth Purvis, Tony Smith, Erika Hunt, Audrey Soglin, Eric Zarnikow  
Phone: Jim Applegate, Roger Eddy, Melissa Mitchell, Jane Russell

**I. Welcome**

Council Chair Beth Purvis welcomed council members and thanked Loyola University for hosting the meeting. Before beginning the meeting, Council Chair Purvis took a moment to recognize the passing of Mr. Ron Bullock. Council Chair Purvis thanked him and his family for his years of service to Illinois as a great educational leader.

Council Chair Purvis then introduced the Dean of Loyola University's School of Education, Ms. Terri Pigott. Ms. Pigott welcomed the committee to Loyola's downtown campus, and thanked the committee for all of the work that the council members do for the students of Illinois.

**II. Children's Cabinet Update**

After the welcome, Council Chair Beth Purvis gave an update on the Children's Cabinet. Council Chair Purvis spoke about the intense work occurring with the Children's Cabinet, and all of the sixteen agencies that are working to ensure the cabinet's success. At the cabinet meeting there was lively discussion with Governor Bruce Rauner about what the goals of the cabinet should be, and how to measure those goals. Concluding her remarks on the update, Council Chair Purvis asked the P-20 subcommittee chairs to think about and discuss with their committees how they can interact with the Children's Cabinet moving forward.

Before moving on to the Illinois School Leadership Advisory Council Update, Council Chair Purvis asked State Superintendent Tony Smith to give an update on ESSA. State Superintendent Smith reported that as a result of ESSA's passing, ISBE is in the process of creating a new state education plan. The philosophy behind the new plan is to build a plan that is much more connected with the state populous by building it from local school districts. ISBE is doing this by participating in school tours and local forums. State Superintendent Smith mentioned that they are getting a lot of positive feedback from the direction that they are going in. Multiple committee members brought up questions regarding obtaining diverse perspectives in the creation of the plan. State Superintendent Smith said they are utilizing aggressive outreach by inviting many different groups to the table, and by traveling throughout the state. There was also a

question pertaining to the role the private sector plays into the new plan. State Superintendent Smith answered by saying that the private sector plays a role in determining the outcomes, and making sure children are prepared to enter the workforce. Council Chair Purvis agreed that the input of the private sector is very important in this process. The first draft of the plan will be completed by the next P-20 council.

### **III. Illinois School Leadership Advisory Council Update**

Mr. Steve Tozer began his report by giving a brief history and rationale for the council. The Illinois School Leadership Advisory Council had their first meeting at the beginning of 2015. The overarching purpose was to nurture state policy implementations that changed how principle preparation is conducted in Illinois. Mr. Tozer explained that there are four general domains to the new principle preparation program. The first is Programs – programs need to be documented to be more effective in producing leaders who improve student learning in preK-12. The second is Quality Assurance – there needs to be good information systems and data analysis to accompany the preparation. The third is Partnerships – partnerships are vital to the program for the distribution of leadership preparation resources to all school districts in Illinois. The fourth is Networks – a network of statewide community of professional practice. Mr. Tozer stated that findings suggest that this is an encouraging beginning, and Illinois is emerging as a leading state. The only problem that Mr. Tozer brought up was questions about sustainability.

### **IV. IPREP Report**

The IPREP report was given by Mr. Brad White from the IERC and Ms. Amber Stitzel Pareja from CCSR. They conducted a study about the Illinois redesign of the principle preparation program. The study was brought about as a result of the change from an overall administration Type-75 program to a very specific principle preparation education. The redesign was a very ambitious and far reaching project. The study was a two year, mix method study, utilizing a statewide scan, in-depth site visits, syllabus reviews, and an online survey. The goal of the study was to see how the new programs are being implemented, and not an evaluation of the programs. The study found that the new program requires more partnerships on behalf of the school districts. The partnerships were looked at as beneficial, but some districts feel stretched thin as a result. In regards to enrollment and recruitment, the study found that there was a substantial decrease in enrollment, however, current candidates were looked at as more committed, strong, and just as diverse. Since the initial shock, programs are starting to increase their enrollment, but are not expected to return to the levels with the Type 75. Most programs are projected to reach sustainable levels of enrollment. The study found that the curriculum for these programs are moving from general administration to principle preparation. The curriculum is seen as more authentic, with a stronger focus on instructional leadership. However, some are concerned that management has been deemphasized in the curriculum. The study also found that there were great improvements with internship and mentoring. The

candidates spent more time in their internships, there was an increase in more meaningful mentorship from supervisors and mentors, a more authentic experience was created, and that many candidates would prefer a paid fulltime residency. Lastly, the study found that the implications of the program will be for schools to balance quality and quantity, weighing costs and benefits of high-engagement partnerships, and balancing the curriculum between organizational management and instructional leadership.

**V. School Leadership Discussion based on ISLAC and IPREP**

After the ISLAC and IPREP presentations, Council Chair Beth Purvis took time to hold a discussion with the presenters. The panel was comprised of Mr. Steve Tozer, Ms. Dianne Rutledge, Mr. Brad White, and Ms. Amber Stitzel Pareja. The panel discussed the importance of equipping principals with strong teacher leaders, and that teacher leadership could be a pathway to a principal preparation program. The panel also shared insight into decreasing enrollment and increasing workloads for faculty as a result of the program. The decreasing enrollment was attributed to the new competencies for students, and the increased workloads was attributed to decreasing faculty numbers. The panel also mentioned that there was an advisory committee convened about impact of the program on the training of superintendents. The universities are also in the process of redoing their superintendent programs to fit in with the principal preparation program. Lastly, the panel agreed that the state needs to put in the same amount of resources it puts into teacher preparation into principal preparation. There are also many funding models that can help with this.

**VI. Workforce Readiness and Pathways Alignment Panel**

After the School Leadership Discussion, Council Chair Beth Purvis introduced Mr. Julio Rodriguez from DCEO, Mr. Jon Furr from NIU, Ms. Karen Hunter Anderson from ICCB, and Mr. Jim Applegate from IBHE. The panel was moderated by Ms. Janet Holt, IER. The panel discussed how their respective organizations provide educational opportunities to Illinois citizens to increase their output into the workforce. Such as, creating new data tools, expanding certificate and associate programs, identifying specific groups to serve, and utilizing better data in decision making. The panel also agreed upon and discussed the importance of partnering with the private sector, and making sure that local businesses are being engaged. The panel then talked about how their organizations utilize data to end and expand programs. The panel also agreed that pre-apprenticeship programs and certificate programs will be very beneficial, as well as committed partnerships between agencies. The panel concluded that having clarity about the strategies the state will and will not be continuing would be very helpful.

**VII. Closing – Wrap-up: P-20 in SY15-16 – Looking ahead: P-20 in SY16-17**

Before adjourning the meeting, Council Chair Beth Purvis thanked everyone that attended the meeting and for having a great discussion, as well for everyone's hard work in the subcommittees over the past year. Council Chair Purvis said

there was no update on the budget. There are some bills in Springfield, however, there is no certainty that they will go into committees. Council Chair Purvis also thanked the men and women running the state agencies for their heroic work of running their agencies without a budget.

## **VIII. Adjourn**